



# ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

31 December 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Greetings from the staff of St Andrew's Secondary School! We are happy to furnish you with the following key information for the start of the academic year:

1. Key Events in Term 1;
2. School-based Assessment;
3. Parent-Teacher Conference for Term 1;
4. Reinforcing Social Skills at Home;
5. Parents Gateway;
6. Use of Students' Images in School-related Communications;
7. Transport Matters.

## 1. KEY EVENTS IN TERM 1

### 1.1 Beginning Of Term Service & Secondary 1 Crossover Ceremony (4 Jan, Tue)

In light of the endemic and the safe management measures put in place, we urge all parents and stakeholders to watch the proceedings through the live streaming link provided. We apologise for the inconvenience and seek your understanding as the school will not be able to accommodate visitors.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SASSSaintsTV>. Watch us live from 7.45 a.m. onwards.

### 1.2 Secondary 1 Orientation Programme (4 Jan, Tue - 6 Jan, Thur)

The Secondary 1 Orientation Programme will commence after morning assembly on 4 Jan, Tue. Further details will be disseminated through Parents Gateway.

The CCA display will take place in week 2 (10 - 14 Jan) for selected CCAs. Sec one students will be allocated a specific day and time to attend the display. Further details will be disseminated through Parents Gateway.

Information on CCA selection will be provided during the CCA briefing for the students by HOD PE & CCA, Mr Sidney Kumar. There will also be a briefing for parents (virtual) on 6 Jan, Thur (6 p.m.). Further details will be given via Parents Gateway.

### 1.3 TECH GOODNESS IT'S FRIDAY (TGIF)

In line with the National Digital Literacy Programme, home-based learning (TGIF) will be scheduled on odd week Fridays. Please refer to the table below for the specific dates. On TGIF days, students need not report to school. Instead, students will log onto the Student Learning Space (SLS) for specific instructions and tasks for the day. Students will be assigned work for a maximum of three subjects a day, to take into consideration factors such as curriculum time, all subjects and the nature of assignments given.

Week 1 (4 – 7 Jan)	7 January, Fri
Week 3 (17 – 21 Jan)	21 January, Fri
Week 5 (31 Jan – 4 Feb)	4 February, Fri
Week 7 (14 – 18 Feb)	18 February, Fri
Week 9 (28 Feb – 4 Mar)	4 March, Fri

### 1.4 Secondary 2 students' Learning Journey to the National Museum (18 – 24 Jan)

To provide our students with opportunities to take part in common experiences and support the development of citizenship dispositions and national identity, students from the secondary 2 cohort will be visiting the National Museum on the following dates:

Date	Classes Involved	Time
18 Jan, Tue	2 Self-Discipline & 2 Thanksgiving	2.30 – 5.00 p.m. approx
19 Jan, Wed	2 Excellence & 2 Unity	2.30 – 5.00 p.m. approx
20 Jan, Thur	2 Wonder & 2 Integrity	2.30 – 5.00 p.m. approx
24 Jan, Mon	2 Empathy & 2 Resilience	2.30 – 5.00 p.m. approx

### 1.5 National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP) Briefing for Secondary 1 Parents (26 Jan, Wed)

There will be a virtual briefing for all Secondary 1 parents on Blended Learning and the purchase of device under the NDLP on Wed, 26 Jan at 6 p.m. Further information with the zoom link will be sent via Parents Gateway at a later date.

### 1.6 Chinese New Year (1-2 Feb, Tue & Wed)

There will be staggered dismissal from 9.30 a.m. onwards on 31 Jan, Mon, the Eve of Chinese New Year. Lessons will resume on 3 Feb, Thur.

## 1.7 Weighted Assessments (WA)

To guide your son/ward in achieving his personal best, Secondary 1 to 5 students will sit the WA 1 from 7 Feb, Mon to 3 Mar, Thur. A detailed schedule will be furnished in due course.

## 1.8 Prefects' Commendation Service (28 Jan, Fri)

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Prefects' Commendation Service will be held at the Church of Ascension (COA) on 28 Jan, Fri. Further details will be issued closer to the date.

## 1.9 End-of-Term Service (11 Mar, Fri)

The End-of-Term Service will be held on Fri, 11 Mar at 11.00 a.m. and there will be staggered dismissal for students from 11.30 a.m. onwards

## 1.10 Term 1 Break (12 Mar, Sat to 20 Mar, Sun)

School holidays will begin on 12 Mar, Sat. Students will return to school on 21 Mar, Mon, for the commencement of Term 2.

## 2. SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.1 As part of the education system's move to strike a better balance between academic rigour and the joy of learning, mid-year examinations would be removed for Secondary 1 and 3 students – as they are exposed to new subjects and/or higher expectations and content rigour during these transition years.

2.2 Formative assessment tools will continue to be used to gauge the learning progress of our boys, and develop their strengths. Your son/ward will be briefed on the changes by their subject teachers.

2.3 Please see the table below for an overview of formal assessments and their weighting for 2022. **Do note that for some subjects (e.g. Art, Design & Technology and Food and Consumer Education) the weighting for graded assessments will differ from the indicated norm.** In such instances, your son will be briefed by their subject teachers and a letter will be issued via Parents Gateway for your reference.

Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Sec 1	Weighted Assessment 1 (WA1) – 10%	WA2* – 15%	WA3 – 15%	End-of-Year Examination (EOY Exam) – 60%
Sec 2	WA1 – 10%	WA2: Mid-Year Examination (MYE) – 30%	WA3 – 10%	EOY Exam – 50%

Sec 3	WA1 – 10%	WA2* – 15%	WA3 – 15%	EOY Exam – 60%
Sec 4 & 5	WA1	WA2: MYE – 30%	Prelim Examination – 70%	

\*A mid-year Learning Disposition Report that captures the learning progress of Secondary 1 & 3 students (e.g. quality of class work, punctuality) will be provided.

### 3. PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE FOR TERM 1

- 3.1 A Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) for Secondary 1 to 5 students will be held on **25 Mar, Fri, between 2.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m.** More information will be provided closer to the date.

### 4. REINFORCING SOCIAL SKILLS AT HOME

- 4.1 As part of our on-going effort to nurture positive behaviours, build grit and foster stronger bonds of friendship amongst students, you may wish to reinforce these social skills that will give your son/ward a strong start to the school year: *Completing Homework Well*, and *Participating in Activities*. Your support will go a long way in ensuring our boys apply the skills taught in and beyond school.

Key steps for 'Completing Homework Well' are as follows:

- 1) Find out the homework for today.
- 2) Ensure you take the required materials home.
- 3) Begin your homework without delay.
- 4) Focus. Do it well. Finish it! *Remember to put down, switch off or walk away from distractions.*
- 5) Keep completed homework in your school bag.

Key steps for 'Participating in Activities' are as follows:

- 1) Politely ask to join a group (e.g. say "May I join you?").
- 2) Ask what role you can play (e.g. say "How can I help?").
- 3) Do your part well. Cooperate with others. *If unsure, ask for help or feedback.*
- 4) Praise others' contributions. Thank them for what they have done.

### 5. PARENTS GATEWAY

- 5.1 Parents Gateway is a mobile application (or "app") that enables parents to engage closely with schools and on-the-go. Users will access school announcements and can perform a range of administrative functions, including travel declarations and giving consent for school trips.

If you have not already done so, and as hardcopy letters will no longer be provided, we invite you to download the free Parents Gateway mobile app on your mobile device, via:

- a) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.moe.pgp&hl=en> (For Android users); or
- b) <https://itunes.apple.com/sg/app/parents-gateway/id1267198708?mt=8> (For Apple users).

Do note that users will require their SingPass account details for login. Should you encounter any technical issues with logging in to the Parents Gateway app, please contact our Administrative Executive, Mr Naqib Putra at 62851944 or email us at [sass@moe.edu.sg](mailto:sass@moe.edu.sg).

## 6. USE OF STUDENTS' IMAGES IN SCHOOL-RELATED COMMUNICATIONS

- 6.1 Through participation in school activities or external competitions, students may be photographed from time to time. The school shall be granted full rights to such images and accompanying use of names, and other visual content or material for display on school-related communications (e.g. website, school magazine, publicity materials).

Parent(s) of students who wish to opt out of participating in school-related communications may do so in writing by 24 Jan, Mon, via [sass@moe.edu.sg](mailto:sass@moe.edu.sg). To best attend to your request, please state "Attn to: Ms Denise Fernandez" in the subject line.

## 7. Transport Matters

### 7.1 "DRIVE-THROUGH ONLY" CAR LABEL

Parents are to apply for a "Drive-Through Only" (DTO) car label for 2022. This will grant parents access to the drop-off area of the car park in the morning. The label will also grant access to Ascension Kindergarten's car park. We seek your understanding that **no parking** is permitted on school premises. Cars without the official label will not be allowed to enter our campus. For traffic safety reasons, please refrain from having your child/ward alight along the main road.

Kindly complete an online form through the following link **by 10 Jan, Mon**, should you need a DTO car label: <https://bit.ly/3z86ovd>

Only one car label will be issued per family. The school will be issuing a new DTO label in 2022 and thus parents with existing car labels will have to apply to renew their labels.

- 7.2 We would like to encourage our Saints to commute via public transport to school as we play our part in conserving the environment.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely  
Mr Lee Han Hwa  
Principal